

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 USIE-00 L-03 AID-05 ARAE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 /028 W  
-----041757Z 130455 /46  
O 041715Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4584

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 0904

FOR TODMAN AND DUFFEY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGSBN SCUL, GY  
SUBJECT: CULTURAL INITIATIVES

REF: STATE 096982

1. IN GUYANA, OUR CULTURAL INITIATIVES WILL HAVE TO BE LIMITED TO THOSE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE PERCEIVED BY THE GOG AS BEING RELEVANT TO, OR AT LEAST NOT IN CONFLICT WITH, GUYANA'S SOCIALIST THRUST AND DEVELOPMENT. EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE ECONOMY, ALL OF THE MAJOR INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ENTIRE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM ARE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY GUYANA'S SMALL PRIVATE SECTOR ARE NEGLIGIBLE.

2. THERE IS A MAJOR NEED IN GUYANA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF EDUCATIONAL, HEALTH, AND GENERAL TRAINING PROGRAMS. THROUGH BRINGING AMERICAN SPECIALISTS TO GUYANA AND GUYANESE SPECIALISTS TO THE US, THE OPPORTUNITY EXISTS TO DEMONSTRATE THE POSSIBLE RELEVANCE TO GUYANA'S DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IN THESE FIELDS. THE SAME HOLDS TRUE FOR SUCH FIELDS AS

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, AGRICULTURE, AND ENERGY RESOURCES.

3. RECENTLY, GOG OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH CULTURAL PROGRAMMING IN GUYANA PROPOSED TO THIS MISSION THAT GUYANESE AUDIENCES BE EXPOSED TO MORE AMERICAN CULTURE IN THE FORM OF POPULAR AUDIENCE-APPEAL TYPE OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS. THEY HAD IN MIND SUCH US CULTURAL PROGRAMS

AS THE "HARLEM DANCE THEATRE" OR ONE OF THE FAMOUS AND UNIVERSALLY KNOWN AMERICAN JAZZ GROUPS. HOWEVER, IF WE ARE TO PRESENT THESE KINDS OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS IN GUYANA, THEN WE SHALL HAVE TO HAVE THE MONEY NECESSARY FOR SUCH PRESENTATIONS. LOCAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES ARE TOO LIMITED FOR THE PRESENTATION OF SUCH PROGRAMS. IN OUR VIEW, SUCH US CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS ARE AN EXCELLENT VEHICLE FOR ENGAGING THE GOG, ITS INSTITUTIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

4. THE ATTITUDES OF CREATIVE THINKERS, WRITERS AND OTHER TALENTED PEOPLE IN GUYANESE SOCIETY ARE IN A STATE OF FLUX. MUCH BEHIND THE SCENES DISCUSSION IS FOCUSING ON HOW TO PRODUCE AND MOLD ATTITUDES WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE FORMATIONS OF A SOCIALIST SOCIETY. THE US MAY BE ABLE TO ENCOURAGE THE IDEA THAT, WHETHER THE SOCIETY IS SOCIALIST OR NOT, FREE THINKING CREATIVE INDIVIDUALS CONTRIBUTE MORE TO A NATION'S LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT THAN DO DOGMATIC IDEOLOGUES. DESPITE HOSTILITY TO AMERICAN IDEAS IN SOME QUARTERS, THERE IS BROAD GUYANESE INTEREST IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.  
BLACKEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SCUL, GY  
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**Review Markings:**  
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